

Approved Minutes

Operator Certification Board Meeting

March 13, 2001

Pierre-Joe Foss Building

Members Present: Del DeBoer, Tom Lesselyoung, Greg Merrigan, Jim Zeck

Member Absent: John Scheltens, Cheryl Johnson

Others Present: Rob Kittay, Secretary to the Board; Gary Wickersham, Onida; George Vansco, SDARWS; and Randy Hilding, DENR.

Merrigan served as acting-chairperson.

Call to Order by Acting Chairperson Merrigan at 12:45 pm

Introductions of all present were made. It was acknowledged that Jim Zeck is a new member on the Board replacing Rollin Sieveke.

Election of Chairperson: DeBoer asked about the rotation of the chair position. DeBoer nominated Merrigan. Zeck moved that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Merrigan. DeBoer seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: DeBoer moved to approve the agenda. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed

Rollin Sieveke Resigning from Board: The Board wishes to thank Rollin for his years of service to Board.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the September meeting were available on the web. DeBoer asked a few questions about the minutes. Lesselyoung moved to approve the minutes. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Reciprocity: Carol Markel applied for a Class II WT certificate thru reciprocity from North Dakota. Kittay recommended issuing the certificate as the requirements were similar. DeBoer moved to grant the Class II WT certificate. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Formal Hearings: Onida-Mayor Gary Wickersham appeared for Onida. He asked about having another person being certified operator. It was explained about contracting vs direct employment. DeBoer moved to continue the hearing to the September meeting. Zeck seconded. DeBoer urged that the operator should attend training. Merrigan asked about whom received the training flyers from SDARWS. Kittay explained that the DWP supplied Rural Water with contact people for each PWS. Motion passed.

Hidden Valley @ RC-A contract has been submitted by Dan Work to be the certified operator here. Kittay suggesting adding a line "Be in direct responsible charge of all system operations and maintenance". DeBoer moved to approve the contract with the above change and that "0.3 mg/l" be correctly indicated for a chlorine residual to be maintained. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed. DeBoer moved to continue hearing to September if there was some problem receiving an amended contract. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Montrose-Kittay spoke of recent conversations with Montrose's MFO and John Rieck, Utilities Manager. Vansco reviewed the one-on-one training that was given to Rieck. Lesselyoung moved that this case be given to the AG's Office on July 1, 2001. DeBoer seconded. Motion passed.

Informal Hearings: Rockerville Trading Post, Custer Mountain Campground, and Siouxland Resort were scheduled for informal hearings. Kittay explained each case to Board. Custer Mountain has been talking to John Kelly, Custer Utilities Manager, about running the system; however, no commit has been made by Kelly to run system. Rob Pedersen from Siouxland Resort will be taking SWT exam in Huron on March 22. Owners of Rockerville Trading Post spend their winters in Yuma AZ and will be attempting to get the certification this summer.

DeBoer moved to schedule Rockerville for a formal hearing in September. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

DeBoer moved to schedule Custer Mountain for a formal hearing in September. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Lesselyoung moved to schedule Siouxland for a formal hearing in September. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Contract Review: Colonial Pine Hills-The contract indicates that Jay Chittim will be an employee. Merrigan moved that agreement be clarified as to whether this is a contract for an operator or is it an agreement for employment and that if it is a contract for an operator, that it be approved. DeBoer seconded. Motion passed.

Country Village N & S-Dan Work submitted a contract that was similar to one he submitted for Hidden Valley. Kittay suggested that the same DRC amendment was needed for this contract as with Hidden Valley's contract. DeBoer moved to approve the contract with the same change. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Bennett County Schools-Some discussion evolved around the fact that this contract was with an entity versus an individual operator. DeBoer moved to approve contract. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Review of ABC Exams: There are several questions that the Board needs to have answered. Can we have two forms for each exam? How are the questions on each exam categorized? Hilding spoke of the small wastewater exam. There are questions concerning activated sludge on it. DeBoer wondered about the time factor to review these exams. There was also the question of training aims. Are the training sessions meant to teach the entire exam or are they a good review? What are the references used by ABC? What is the process for changing exam questions? What are the prescriptive exams? What will be the impact on the training? Kittay will find answers to the questions.

DeBoer wanted to know who was reviewing which exams. Kittay indicated the following:

Zeck- WT / WW I-IV WWC I & II

Lesselyoung- WT / WW I WD/WWC I & II

Merrigan- WT / WD I & II

DeBoer- All exams

Scheltens- All exams

Johnson- WW I-IV

Hilding- All exams

Termination of One-on-One/Small Group Training Contract with SDARWS: The contract expired in September, 2000 and had been renewed three times. Vansco reviewed the background of contract. Merrigan indicated that DENR should find a way to offer assistance to systems that are scheduled for hearings thru SRF monies.

Status of Certification: DeBoer moved that seven systems (Canistota-WDI, WWI, WWCI; Corsica-WDI, WWI, WWCI; Isabel-WTII; Lakeside Estates in Aberdeen-WDI, WWI, WWCI; Scotland-WDI, WWI, WWCI; Woonsocket-WTI, WDI, WWI, WWCI; and Worthing-WTI, WDI, WWI, WWCI) be scheduled for hearings at the September 11 meeting and the other systems on the compliance list receive letters that the Board is considering enforcement action against them. Zeck seconded. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: The next regular Board meeting will be September 11 at 2:00 pm at the Yankton Kelley Inn prior to the SDWWA Conference. The Board may also meet to deal with the ABC exams.

Adjournment: DeBoer moved for adjournment. Zeck seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.



---

Rob Kittay

March 22, 2001